

His Worship, Mr. Mayor D. Barrow
Honourable Members of Council
Town of Richmond Hill
225 East Beaver Creek Road
Richmond Hill, ON
L4B 3P4

January 17, 2019

Re: Jewish Youth Network - 9135 Bathurst Street
Request for Consideration to Defer Development Charges

Dear Mayor and Members of Council,

I am a volunteer on behalf of the Jewish Youth Network ("JYN"), a not-for-profit community organization based in Richmond Hill and primarily serving the local Jewish community. I write today in relation to the approved development of a Community Centre at 9135 Bathurst Street to be known as the "Jewish Youth Network Robbins Family Centre" (the "JYN Centre").

The JYN Centre will serve as a community centre for Jewish learning and activities. It will be operated by JYN on a not-for-profit basis. Furthermore, the development and construction of the 25,887 square foot community centre has been funded and operated entirely through private donations from the community. Achieving the vision of the JYN Centre is the product of a great many hours of effort from committed volunteers dating back to 2013. I would also like to take this opportunity to thank the Town's staff for their concerted and dedicated efforts in processing the applicable development applications to make the JYN Centre a reality.

The site plan application to permit the JYN Centre was provisionally approved and Town Staff have worked diligently to finalize the requisite Site Plan Agreement (File No. D06-16037) which has been executed and delivered to the Town. Construction will commence immediately upon approval of JYN's building permit application (No. BP 2018-45423) which is currently being processed by the Town's Chief Building Official and its staff.

As Council is likely aware, the Town's Development Charges By-law does not currently contain any blanket exceptions for not-for-profit community projects. As a result, development charges would generally be payable and, in this case, will be quite onerous and taxing on JYN's limited resources.

On behalf of the JYN we write to request that Council consider a deferral of normally applicable development charges. To that end, I have registered to deliver a delegation at the February 4, 2019 meeting of the Town's Committee of the Whole.

The request for deferral of development charges is well-within Council's statutory powers. Furthermore, there is precedent within the Town of Richmond Hill for granting such relief for other not-for-profit entities.

Inspiring Jewish Youth

Youth Lounge • Hebrew School • Pre-teen Programs
Torah 4 Teens • Community Service • Friday Night Live
Shabbatons • Teen Retreats • Jewish Clubs • Teen Aid
Alumni Programs • Networking • Internet Cafe

We thank you for your continued support. Your consideration of our request will further aid us in realizing JYN's ambitious vision, a vision we are confident will be a credit to the community and the Town of Richmond Hill.

Yours very truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Alon Szpindel'. The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Alon Szpindel
on behalf of the Jewish Youth Network
Mobile:
Email: